

That afternoon, I got to highlight how funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will improve our regional public transit system, known as SEPTA.

Over the next 5 years, SEPTA will receive more than \$500 million more than expected. That money will help SEPTA accelerate repair efforts, including rehabilitation projects, vehicle replacement, and improving accessibility of rail and trolley stations.

While all of these upgrades are needed, the forthcoming work on accessibility is especially important. In fact, it is essential. People across our region rely on SEPTA every day to get to work, take their kids to school, buy groceries, go to the doctor, and more. Our neighbors should be able to complete these daily tasks without having to plan around which station has an elevator to accommodate a wheelchair or which stop is easier to get a baby stroller in and out of.

I am glad the infrastructure funding that Congress and President Biden delivered will help get this much-needed work done more quickly. Our Delaware Valley residents deserve it.

□ 1215

#### ELECTION WORKERS ARE ESSENTIAL

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise because we have seen a continuous assault on voting rights and election integrity in recent years, pushed by partisan operatives, foreign governments and, most disturbingly, some of our own elected officials.

Over the weekend, the former President pressed members of his party in Pennsylvania to plant more Republican operatives in our election system in order to influence the counting of votes.

The former President said, "We have to be a lot sharper the next time when it comes to counting the vote. Sometimes the vote counter is more important than the candidate." That is just wrong.

I will be the first to agree that our election workers are essential, but not because they are supposed to change the results in our elections for one political party or another. That is not how American elections work. Here, the people decide.

This kind of mindset is exactly why it is so important to have people of good character trained and ready to execute the duties of poll workers faithfully. Poll workers are the first line of defense for ensuring the right to vote. They help voters overcome challenges, both bureaucratic and physical, at the polls. They also help educate the public about how safe and effective our election system really is.

We need more engaged citizens who want to contribute to our democracy to get involved and sign up to be poll workers in our communities. I encourage my constituents to reach out to their county election officials today to learn more about this unique opportunity to uphold our democratic sys-

tem and help ensure that all eligible voters are able to exercise their most essential freedom, the right to vote.

#### BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW DELIVERS BENEFITS

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, one of the highlights of congressional action last year was the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and we are already seeing the impact in my district, Pennsylvania's 5th, and the greater Philadelphia region.

Just before the holidays, EPA Administrator Regan joined me at the Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site to announce that the agency had committed millions in funding from that infrastructure bill to this project, moving its anticipated completion date up to 2023.

At this former landfill, chemicals had leached into the soil and groundwater for decades in the largely minority community of Eastwick. Thanks to funding from the new infrastructure package, many sites like Lower Darby Creek will see their cleanup accelerated, and nearly 50 additional Superfund sites will get the green light to be cleaned up.

Less pollution, safer communities, and more jobs.

I am proud to deliver these benefits to PA-05 through the bipartisan infrastructure law.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BEATTY) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

All-knowing, all-seeing God, look upon us this day. Nothing is hidden from Your sight. All that we are is laid bare before You.

Peer into our innermost thoughts and redeem the unworthiness therein that attempts to define us. Search our souls and give comfort to the discontent that threatens to overwhelm us.

In Your mercy, see us as we are meant to be and give us the light of Your countenance to live into that hope.

Then, as we have been seen, may we see. As we gaze around us, help us to look upon the people You have placed in our paths with the same acceptance that You have shown us.

Give us Your sight, that we would not be the judge of unworthiness, but

the agents of Your redemption. Give us eyes to see the discontented, that we would be instruments of Your comfort and gracious care, with a selfless gesture, a kind word, a helping hand.

Reveal all around us who seek to remain invisible or who have, by our indifference, remained hidden, that no one would have cause to believe that they remain outside Your grace and mercy.

In Your omniscient name we pray.  
Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2471. An act to measure the progress of post-disaster recovery and efforts to address corruption, governance, rule of law, and media freedoms in Haiti.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-567, the Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, announces the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Interest Declassification Board:

Carter Burwell of Virginia.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF JAMES S. MOULTHROP, P.E.

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of James S. Moulthrop, P.E., a western Pennsylvania native and long-time Pennsylvania Department of Transportation professional whose impact has traveled well beyond the Keystone State.